

## Message Text

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72

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 EB-11 RSR-01 /130 W  
----- 035402

R 250938 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3206

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS MASERU 0558

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, LT

SUBJ: PM'S STATEMENT ON TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF OAU

1. SUMMARY: IN TAPED STATEMENT DELIVERED OVER RADIO LESOTHO MAY 23 PRIME MINISTER LEABUA JONATHAN DECLARED DENIAL OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS TO PEOPLES OF AFRICAN TERRITORIES STILL RULED BY MINORITY REGIMES WAS ONE OF MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS STILL FACING OAU. LESOTHO NOT COMPLACENT ABOUT CAPABILITIES OF OAU AND PM WAS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN AREA OF INTRA- AFRICAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION. NONETHELESS, ORGANIZATION HAD DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY FOR REALISM AND LESOTHO SAW IN IT INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK CONTAINING POSSIBILITIES FOR EMERGENCE OF AFRICA AS FREE CONTINENT FREE OF INTERESTS OF FOREIGN POWERS AND OF SECTIONAL, TRIBAL, RACIAL OR NATIONAL COLONIALISMS. END SUMMARY.

2. PM EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT PROVIDED BY OAU IN LESOTHO'S STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE. ALONG WITH ITS AFRICAN COLLEAGUES, LESOTHO CHERISHES DECOLONIALIZATION.  
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TION TRADITION ESTABLISHED IN ADDIS ABABA IN 1963 AND CONTINUES TO PRESS FOR INDEPENDENCE OF FELLOW AFRICANS IN ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, GUINEA BISSAU, RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. PM ALSO NOTED IMPORTANCE OF MEDIATORY ROLE OF ORGANIZATION IN SOLVING PROBLEMS BETWEEN MEMBER STATES. IN VIEW OF SERIOUSNESS OF DISPUTES ARISING OUT OF PROBLEMS INHERITED FROM EUROPEAN COLONIAL POWERS AND POTENTIAL FOR EXPLOITATION OF SUCH DISPUTES BY OUTSIDE POWERS, OAU COULD BE PROUD OF WEALTH OF STATESMANSHIP WHICH ITS MEMBERSHIP CONTAINS. ACCEPTANCE OF LUSAKA MANIFESTO AT OAU SUMMIT IN 1969 EXPRESSED CAPABILITIES FOR REALISM AND QUEST FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS OF CONTINENT.

3. HOWEVER, OAU'S SUCCESS OR FAILURE IN ENSURING THAT DECOLONIALIZATION PROCESS NOT STEMMED IN AREAS UNDER MINORITY RULE WILL DETERMINE WHETHER CONFIDENCE AND HOPE AFRICANS PLACE IN IT IS JUSTIFIED, AND FORTHCOMING HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENTS SESSION SHOULD NOT HESITATE TAKE HARD AND FRANK LOOK AT WHETHER SUPPORT GIVEN LIBERATION OF THESE TERRITORIES HAS BEEN MOST EFFICIENT. APPLICATION OF RACISM IN THESE TERRITORIES POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION WHICH WILL REQUIRE ALL QUALITIES OF STATESMANSHIP AND REALISM OF OAU.

4. SUCCESSES OF ORGANIZATION IN AREA OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION WERE DISAPPOINTINGLY LOW. PM POINTED TO THE LOW VOLUME OF INTRA- AFRICAN TRADE, UNIMPLEMENTED RESOLUTIONS OF SUMMITS, RELEGATION OF INTRA- AFRICAN COMMUNICATIONS TO ARRANGEMENTS WITH FORMER METROPOLITAN POWERS, AND FACT THAT WEALTH OF INTRA- AFRICAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE HAS HARDLY BEEN TAPPED. SUCCESS IN INTRA- AFRICAN COOPERATION WOULD STRENGTHEN ABILITY OF ORGANIZATION TO MEET OUTSTANDING POLITICAL PROBLEMS AND ASPIRATIONS FOR BETTER LIFE OF AFRICAN PEOPLES. BEGINNING WAS MADE AT MEETINGS OF AFRICAN MINISTERS IN ADDIS ABABA IN MARCH AND IN ABIDJAN IN MAY, AND LESOTHO WILLING DO ITS PART IN CONNECTION WITH REGIONAL UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA, LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND AIR COMMUNICATIONS, AND REGIONAL TOURISM.

5. TEXT POUNCHED.  
FRISBIE

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kellerpr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <20-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980305  
**Subject:** PM' S STATEMENT ON TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF OAU  
**TAGS:** PFOR, LT, OAU  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA  
AF  
GABORONE  
LONDON  
MBABANE  
PARIS  
PRETORIA

SECSTATE WASHDC

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005